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Washington, D.C. 20505

28 FEB 1986

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The Honorable Patricia Schroeder
Chairwoman
Committee on Post Office and Civil Service
Subcommittee on Civil Service
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Madam Chairwoman:

I am replying to your letter of 6 February 1986 to the Director of Central Intelligence requesting information about this Agency's policy on urinalysis testing.

There is no formal program requiring a urinalysis for drug screening purposes for Agency employees at this time.

A trial program was started 3 January 1986 to screen all applicants for agency employment for drug use via urinalysis. This program is due to end on 1 March 1986. At that time our results will be evaluated relevant to our selection procedures, and cost-benefit determinations will be made.

Our trial program utilizes the contract services of the outside laboratory that does all of our laboratory evaluations. Signed informed consent is required of all applicants prior to the testing (which is conducted at the same time as our regular medical screening).

This trial program screens urine for narcotics, amphetamines, barbiturates, marijuana, PCP, and alcohol. Both thin layer chromatography and EMIT methods are used, with all positives confirmed by gas chromatography. Positive findings are used for informational purposes only in our medical and security evaluation, and they would not be the sole criteria for refusing employment to any applicant.

I trust this information is helpful to you.

Sincerely,

/s/ David D. Gries

David D. Gries
Director, Office of Congressional Affairs

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